States in power generation at the time of independence is at present having the lowest per capita consumption of power; if not, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the unit at Farakka which would supply power to Binar has been constructed; and

(c) what are the reasons on account of which Koyal Karo Hydel Project and Tenughat Project have not yet started whereas in the last ten years the generating capacity of DVC has increased by 400 without giving a share to Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The per capita consumption of power depends upon availability of power, the extent of electrification in urban and rural areas, the extent of industrialisation of the area, energisation of pumpsets and the level of economic well being of the people. The power availability in Bihar has not increased sufficiently due to delay in commissioning of new generating capacity and unsatisfactory performance of thermal power stations at Barauni and Patratu.

(b) First unit at Farakka has been synchronised in January, 1986. The commercial operation of the unit is expected by end of March, 1986.

(c) The work on Koel Karo Project has not commenced due to resistance from the local people to the acquisition of land required for the project and their demand of land for land. Some of the affected land owners have also filed a Writ Petition before the Supreme Court and the matter is sub-judice. The work at Tenughat Project has been affected on account of problems in acquisition of land, paucity of funds and delay in finalisation of terms and conditions by Bihar State Electricity Board to award the work to BHEL on turn-key basis.

During the last 10 years the drawal of electrical energy by Bihar from DVC has increased by 65 per cent from 918 million units in 1975-76 to 1515 million units in 1984-85 whereas DVC's installed capacity increased by only 27 per cent from 1219 MW in 1975-76 to 1549 MW in 1984-85.

Use of Helicopters

2079. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that helicopters are being used by various oil and gas exploring and supply agencies in the country to streamline their operations;

(b) if so, what are the various types of helicopters being used by various undertakings of the Petroleum Department including details of their owners seating capacity and charter rates;

(c) what are the estimates of helicopter requirements of the above undertakings for the next four years and details of the arrangements being made for their procurement; and

(d) how many helicopters of total seating capacity of 4 to 9 people are likely to be used by the above undertakings during the next four years and the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Power projects in Orissa

2080. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the present installed capacity of the power projects in the State of Orissa;

(b) the total MW of power which can be generated on completion of the on-going power projects in the State; and

(c) by when those on-going power projects are expected to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) The present installed capacity of power stations in Orissa is about 1150 MW excluding Orissa's share in Machkund hydel station located in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) and (c) Benefits expected from the ongoing/sanctioned projects and the present anticipated completion schedule of these projects is indicated in the Annexure attached. [*See* Appendix CXXXVII, Annexure No. 28].

Curtailing coal production

2081. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coal department has scaled down the current year production target by 3.5 million tonnes;

(b) if so, the main reasons for the same;

(c) is it also a fact that the Coal companies will now end the current financial year with a production of 154.5 million tonnes against the targeted production of 158 million tonnes; and

(d) if so, what are the main reasons [illegible] such decision?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) to (d) Since the pithead stocks of coal rose to an abnormally high figure of 30.40 million tonnes on 31-3-1985 and the coal stocks were catching fire on account of spontaneous combustion at a number of places, the target of coal production for the year 1985-86 was reviewed and reduced from 158.50 million tonnes to 154.50 million tonnes.

Conversion of Municipal waste into electricity

2082. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that pilot projects for conversion of Municipal wastage into electricity have been launched in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, what are the main features thereof;

(c) what are the schemes likely to be undertaken in this regard; and

(d) to what extent electricity will be obtained by this process?

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI VASANT SATHE): (a) Yes, Sir, at present a pilot project for conversion of municipal wastage into electricity is under construction in Delhi.

(b) and (d) A Garbage Incineration-cum-Power Generation Plant is under installation at Timarpur, Delhi The Plant will incinerate 300 MT of municipal solid waste per day and generate 3.745 MW power. This is an R&D pilot project being the first of its kind for extraction of energy from relatively low calorific value garbage available in the country. In addition, electricity has started being generated from a project to utilise landfill gas from a waste landfill at Timarpur. 35 KW is already being generated and it is proposed to progressively increase this capacity to 5 MW.

(c) Based on the satisfactory performance of the above plants, suitable sites in other major cities will be identified for similar projects depending on the availability of the garbage of required calorific value and landfills.